

“Doing My Part for the Environment”

20

“Who wants to be a Champion of the Environment?”

“Good evening! I’m S.C. Environment, and I am your host tonight for “Who wants to be a Champion of the Environment?” This evening we have three participants who want to win this very special title. We are doing our show a little bit different tonight. Instead of asking a series of questions, we will ask one complex one. And here it is... “How can you do your part for the environment?” The person with the best answer wins. This will take a while so we better get started. Here is Contestant 1...”

“By recycling items that we cannot use, they can be returned to certain organizations where they can be recycled. In a lifetime, the average American will throw away 600 times his or her adult weight in garbage. If we

recycled this garbage we can save natural resources, energy, and it can add value to South Carolina's economy. For example, by recycling over 1 million tons of steel in 2004, Pennsylvanians saved 1.3 million tons of iron ore, 718,000 tons of coal, and 62,000 tons of limestone. If South Carolina recycled more, then we too can also have a huge change in the amount of natural resources available in the environment. You may ask, "How does recycling save energy?" Most people are not aware of this, but energy requires the use of scarce fossil fuels and involves the production of a lot of different air and water pollutants. Recycling simple things like paper cuts energy usage in half. This allows a safer environment. It benefits the economy because more jobs are created while completing the recycling process. You can make 20 cans out of recycled material with the same amount of energy it takes

to make one new one. Recycling also makes it easier for huge manufacturing companies. In conclusion, by recycling, you are doing your part for the environment.”

“That was great! Here is Contestant 2...”

“By planting one tree (reforestation), you can make a huge difference you may not realize. For example, you are building a home for some animals. You are providing food for others. Reforestation can open many new occupations for people. It also stabilizes slopes, and prevents mudslides. Planting trees prevents flash floods from occurring because huge trees can store water. Trees store carbon, which will also slow global warming. Planting trees can make a huge improvement in not only South Carolina, but also our world. In my opinion, by planting trees, we are doing our part for the environment.”

“That was fantastic too! Let’s see what Contestant 3 has to say...”

“Littering creates an unhealthy environment for everyone in the atmosphere. It harms and hurts many animals. They can get their heads trapped in glass jars and metal cans when looking for food. It costs 15 million dollars a year just to pick up the litter in America’s national parks. A tiny piece of school notebook paper takes 30 days just to be broken down into pieces small enough to become part of the earth again. Just because one human is too lazy to throw their trash away, someone else will be negatively affected. Therefore, by encouraging people not to litter and not littering ourselves, we are definitely doing our part for the environment.”

“Wow! Everyone, weren’t they all wonderful? This is going to be one of the hardest decisions we have ever

made, but let's see what the audience has to say. Oh! It looks like we have a winner. Contestant 1 you have won the title as "Champion of the Environment."

Congratulations everyone, you did a phenomenal job.

Thank you for watching our show! Bye!"